IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Yukiko NISHIOKA et al.

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. 10/536,961

Attorney Docket No. 2005-0880A

Filed May 31, 2005

SUBSTRATE CLEANING APPARATUS AND METHOD [Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/007560 Filed May 26, 2004]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

la.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

IJ	each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;						
	each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/; and/or						
	each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.						
[X] Thi	s Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:						
	hree months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the ntitled application, or						

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
 - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
 - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
 - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. [] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- 5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Yukiko NISHIOKA et al.

Nils E. Pedersen

Registration No. 33,145 Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krg Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 July 14, 2005

Sheet 1 of 1'			INFORMA	TION DISCLOSURE STATEMEN	IT					
FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF MIMERCE				ATTY DOCKET NO. 2005-0880A		SERIAL NO. 10/536,961				
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)				APPLICANT Yukiko NISHIOKA et al.						
(Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: July 14, 2005				FILING DATE GROUP May 31, 2005						
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS										
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	С	LASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DA	ATE IF RIATE	
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			FORE	EIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS	_		T			
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